

## Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 OMB-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /088 W

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P R 021500Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4559

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

US MISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 272

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 3222

GENEVA FOR WISNER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, RH, ZA

SUBJ: CLAIMED INCREASE IN NATIONALIST MILITARY ACTIVITY IN  
THE ZAMBIAN-RHODESIAN BORDER AREA.

1. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A COPY OF "THE ZIMBABWE PEOPLES'  
NEWSLETTER" (SUPPLEMENT OF THE ZIMBABWE REVIEW), DATED NOVEMBER  
29, PUBLISHED BY THE NKOMO WING OF THE ANC. THE NOVEMBER 29  
SUPPLEMENT CARRYS THREE ARTICLES: "THE GENEVA CONFERENCE",  
"SETTLERS RUN BESERK IN AND OUTSIDE OF ZIMBABWE - WHY?"  
AND ZPRA DIARY OF OPERATIONS".

2. IN THE ARTICLE ON GENEVA THE PATRIOTIC FRONT COMES IN FOR  
FAVORABLE TREATMENT, AND BRITISH AND AMERICAN MOTIVATIONS IN  
ARRANGING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ARE CALLED INTO QUESTION. THE  
ARTICLE ON SETTLERS RUNNING BESERK DRAWS HEAVILY ON THE RHODESIAN  
CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE'S RECENT REPORT ON  
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THE SITUATION IN RHODESIA.

3. THE MOST INTERESTING ARTICLE IS "ZPRA DIARY OF OPERATIONS". THE ZIMBABWE PEOPLES' REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ZPRA) IS ZAPU'S MILITARY ARM. ZPRA TAKES CREDIT FOR 68 ARMED ATTACKS WITHIN RHODESIA, LISTED IN THE DIARY AS OCCURRING BETWEEN MAY 5 AND OCTOBER 8, 1976, ALL REASONABLY CLOSE TO THE ZAMBIAN BORDER. SOME OF THESE ARE SERIOUS OTHERS MINOR. A FEW OF THEM HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE RHODESIAN AND LOCAL PRESS.

4. COPIES OF NEWSLETTER BEING POUCHED, GENEVA, AF/E AND INR/RAF/CS.

COMMENT: THE CLAIM OF 68 MILITARY ACTIONS BY ZPRA MAY BE INFLATED IN THE INTEREST OF SHOWING THE WORLD THAT ZAPU, AS WELL AS ZANU MAINTAIN AN EFFECTIVE, ACTIVE MILITARY WING. HOWEVER, EVEN IF THE LISTING IS HALVED IT WOULD STILL INDICATE AN APPRECIABLE INCREASE OF INCIDENTS IN THE RHODESIAN-ZAMBIAN BORDER AREA OVER THE LAST MONTHS. THIS WOULD ACCOUNT IN PART FOR THE GRZ'S INCREASING CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF RHODESIAN MILITARY ACTION DIRECTED AGAINST ZAMBIA. LOW

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, REFUGEES, MILITARY EXERCISES, BORDER INCIDENTS, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760446-0523  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** saccheem  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by saccheem>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CLAIMED INCREASE IN NATIONALIST MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE ZAMBIAN-RHODESIAN BORDER AREA.  
**TAGS:** PINS, RH, ZA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006